



FACTSHEET

SUMMER FRUIT TORTRIX MOTH

Adoxophyes orana

BIOSECURITY PEST

2025



Summer fruit tortrix moth larvae



This species is considered a major pest of fruit crops. It damages all types of pome and stone fruits, mainly in apple and pear orchards. The summer generation of Summer Tortrix moth larvae cause extensive damage to fruit and severely reduce yields in apple orchards. Feeding can result in holes and scabs on the surface of affected fruit leaving it unmarketable. These injuries also leave fruit more susceptible to fungal and bacterial infections causing fruit rots.

Look out for...

On Plant

Shoots tips covered by fine webbing • Damaged fruit – large deep holes.

Eggs

Eggs - Flat, oval, light green laid in rows of 30 to 50 eggs on the underside of leaves.

Larvae

Mature larvae are 18-22 mm long and greenish in colour with light hairs and warts. The head is light brown to brownish-yellow. The head is long and wide. Larvae are typically found feeding on the underside of leaves.

Pupae

Greenish to light brown becoming dark brown with time. The length is 8-11 mm. They can be found anywhere throughout affected host plants but are most frequently found on the leaves or stems.

Adult

Adults range from a dull greyish-brown (female) to yellowish-brown (male) with a variable dark brown marking pattern and a wingspan of 1.5-1.9 cm (male) or 1.8-2.2 cm (female). The forewing of the female is rather dull greyish-brown, while in the male the colouration is brighter and yellowish-brown.



Summer fruit tortrix moth



Cocoon

Organism type: Insect

Order: Lepidoptera

Most likely to enter:

Fruit infected with immature stages
e.g larvae or plant material.



Fruit



Plant



13mm

Already established:
Europe, China, Japan,
Korea, Russia

Risk to:

Crop ✓ **Market access** ✓



SUMMER FRUIT TORTRIX MOTH

Adoxophyes orana

How will this pest affect my orchard!

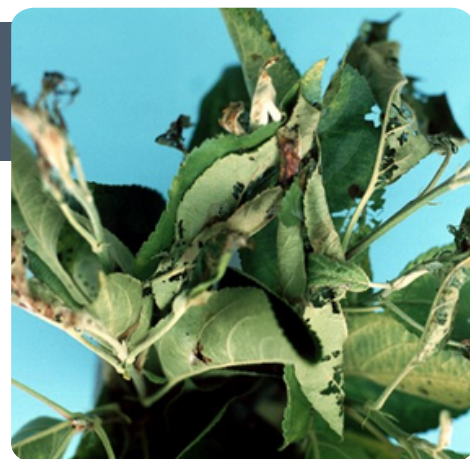
Larvae feed on leaves, flowers, buds and fruit. Damage to foliage is insignificant, but damage to fruit can be serious. On apples, damage from the first generation will result in large deep holes, whereas the second generation produces small holes of less than 5 mm in diameter. Damaged fruit may be secondarily infected by fungal diseases. External feeding is visible on leaves and young buds. Feeding can deform leaves and provoke areas with necrosis. Leaves appear wilted, yellow and shredded. Leaves are likely to be rolled or folded and held together with silk webbing as is also the case when larvae feed on flowers.

What are the market access implications?

A major pest of apples and pears. Cited cases of insecticide resistance. 9 countries have quarantine regulations for this insect pest. Thailand and USA being countries of significance.

Spreading Potential and Climate Suitability

Climate likely to be favourable as the insect is present in other temperate countries. Host range is relatively wide, but the moth has a preference for members of the Rosaceae family. Adults can fly. Males precede females in flight by a few days and may disperse up to 400 m. Female dispersal is limited. Immature stages can be moved via human aided transport of fruit.



Larval damage



Leaf damage



Fruit damage

If you think you've found this pest

If you see any tell tale signs

- Photograph them
- Note the location
- Call **0800 80 99 66**

If you've found a suspicious caterpillar or moth

- Photograph it
- Capture it
- Call **0800 80 99 66**



Pupa